

Message Text

SECRET

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DRAFTED BY EA/ANP:LJMOSE:MHS

APPROVED BY EA - MR. INGERSOLL

EA - MR. SNEIDER

EUR/SOV - MR. MATLOCK (INFO)

S/S - WHLUERS

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P 051657Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 069055

EXDIS CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AS, UR, US, IN, CE, XO, UN, PFOR, PARM, MARR

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN INTEREST IN US/USSR CONSULTATIONS ON
INDIAN OCEAN

REFS: A. STATE 058869; B. MOSCOW 04812

1. SUMMARY: AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR SHAW HAS INQUIRED
WHETHER SECRETARY KISSINGER, WHILE IN SOVIET UNION,
RAISED ISSUE OF "MUTUAL RESTRAINT" IN INDIAN OCEAN.
ASSISTANT SECRETARY INGERSOLL INDICATED, THAT TO HIS
KNOWLEDGE, ISSUE HAD NOT COME UP. SHAW REITERATED GOA HOPE
THAT US WOULD RAISE THIS ISSUE WITH USSR AT NEXT AVAILABLE
OPPORTUNITY. INGERSOLL PROMISED TO BRING THIS AUSTRALIAN
HOPE TO THE ATTENTION OF THE SECRETARY. END SUMMARY.

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2. DURING APRIL 3 MEETING ON OTHER ISSUE AUSTRALIAN

AMBASSADOR SIR PATRICK SHAW ASKED ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROBERT INGERSOLL (EA) IF HE KNEW WHETHER SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER HAD RAISED WITH THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP DURING HIS RECENT TRIP TO MOSCOW THE QUESTION OF "MUTUAL RESTRAINT" BY THE TWO GOVERNMENTS IN THE INDIAN OCEAN REGION. SHAW CONFIRMED THAT GOA REMAINED HOPEFUL THAT US COULD RAISE THIS MATTER IN THE CONTEXT OF ARMS LIMITATION GENERALLY.

3. ASSISTANT SECRETARY INGERSOLL CONFIRMED THAT THE AUSTRALIAN INTEREST IN THIS REGARD HAD BEEN INCLUDED IN THE

BRIEFING MATERIAL PREPARED IN ANTICIPATION OF SECRETARY

KISSINGER'S VISIT TO MOSCOW. HE HAD NO INDICATION, HOWEVER, THAT THE MATTER HAD BEEN RAISED AT MOSCOW.

4. AMBASSADOR SHAW PROBED ON OTHER POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITIES WHEN THIS ISSUE MIGHT BE RAISED BY US WITH SENIOR SOVIET OFFICIALS. ASSISTANT SECRETARY INGERSOLL SAID HE WOULD INFORM THE SECRETARY OF CONTINUED AUSTRALIAN INTEREST IN THIS IDEA.

5. AMBASSADOR SHAW THOUGHT AUSTRALIAN INTEREST IN "MUTUAL RESTRAINT" CONCEPT MIGHT ALSO BE RAISED WITH USSR DURING SUSLOV'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO AUSTRALIA AND PM WHITLAM'S VISIT MOSCOW IN JUNE. SHAW IS PROBABLY EUROPEAN DEPARTMENT, MFA.) RUSH

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